

REMARKS

This Response is in reply to the Office Action mailed March 5, 2009, and the Advisory Action mailed May 19, 2009. Claims 7, 9-16, 20-24, 26-56, 58-64, and 66-85 were pending in the application. Claims 26-42, 58-64, 66-69, 77, 83, and 84 were allowed. Claims 43-56 and 85 were objected to. Claims 70-76 and 78-81 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 7, 9-16, 20-24 and 82 were rejected.

Claims 43-56 and 82 were objected to because line 13 of claim 43 included the term "gap". Claim 43 has been amended to change the term "gap" to "notch".

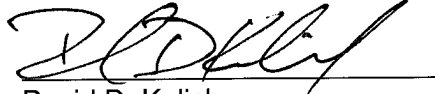
Claim 7 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph because line 10 includes the limitation "the enlarged first end". Claim 7 has been amended to delete the term "enlarged" prior to the phrase "first end", and to include the limitation "wherein the first end is enlarged" at the end of claim. This amendment should overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and should not change the scope of the claim.

Claims 9, 12-16, and 20-24 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0029039. Claims 9, 13-16, 20-24, and 82 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,415,659. Claims 10-12 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,415,659. Claims 10-11 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0029039. Claims 9-16, 20-24, and 82 have been cancelled and these rejections are now moot.

Claims 32, 49 and 64 have been amended to remove extraneous language.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant submits the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Kalish', written over a horizontal line.

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